

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 04091 172233Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 ISO-00 SS-15 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03

OMB-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 /065 W

-----172241Z 049537 /14

P 170835Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3937

USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 4091

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, KS

SUBJECT: DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY ANNE WEXLER'S TRIP TO KOREA

REF: (A) STATE 098673, (B) USDOC 09244

1. TRADE ISSUES, ESPECIALLY FEAR OF INCREASING U.S. PROTECTIONISM, ARE LIKELY TO BE OF PARTICULAR CONCERN DURING DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY WEXLER'S VISIT. ALTHOUGH KOREANS HOPE RECENT CONCLUSION NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR OMA (SEOUL 4057) WILL RESULT IN FAVORABLE PRESIDENTIAL DECISION ON USITC RECOMMENDATIONS, AS WAS THE CASE WITH MUSHROOMS, EXPORTS WILL NEVERTHELESS BE RESTRICTED, AS KOREANS WILL PROBABLY POINT OUT. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, MUSHROOM PROBLEM DID NOT DISAPPEAR WITH REACHING UNDERSTANDING ON RESTRICTIONS (SEOUL 3024, TAIPEI 2794) AND, AS KOREA'S EXPORT EXPANSION EFFORTS CONTINUES, PROBLEMS WITH OTHER PRODUCTS ARE LIKELY TO ARISE. FOR EXAMPLE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE KOREAN ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION, IN ANTICIPATION THAT U.S. QUOTAS WILL BE SET ON COLOR T.V. RECEIVERS, HAS FILED PETITION WITH STR IN EFFORT TO ASSURE THAT JAPANESE T.V. SETS BEING ASSEMBLED IN KOREA WOULD BE CHARGED AGAINST JAPAN'S

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QUOTA, RATHER THAN KOREA'S.

2. ANOTHER TOPICAL ISSUE IS KOREAN IMPORT LIBERALIZATION; THIS IS A MAJOR ITEM ON AGENDA OF USKEC-KUSEC JOINT MEETING CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN SEOUL. DEPARTMENT IS REFERRED TO SEOUL 3246 ON IMPORT LIBERALIZATION, SEOUL 0329 ON KOREAN TARIFFS, AND A-177, 11/5/76, ON

KOREA'S IMPORT DEPOSIT SYSTEM. SUBJECT OF KOREA'S FOREIGN INVESTMENT CLIMATE MAY ALSO BE RAISED (SEOUL A-67), AS WELL AS FISHERY ISSUES (SEOUL 2017 AND PREVIOUS), AND EXIMBANK AND OPIC PROGRAMS (OF INTEREST HERE, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT VISITS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH). WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENT IS ABREAST OF OTHER MATTERS INCLUDED ON AGENDA FOR LAST MAY'S MINISTERIAL MEETING.

3. ALTHOUGH NOT STRICTLY A COMMERCIAL SUBJECT, U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL IS A SUBJECT OF GREAT INTEREST ON THE PART OF MANY BUSINESS PEOPLE HERE, BOTH AMERICAN AND KOREAN, AND SUBJECT MAY BE RAISED BY KOREANS DURING DISCUSSIONS. WE RECOMMEND THAT US POSITION BE INCLUDED IN DEPARTMENT'S BRIEFING FOR DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY.

4. IT MAY BE ANTICIPATED THAT, IF DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY MEETS WITH AMERICAN CHAMBER, SUBJECT OF SECTION 911 OF IRC WILL BE RAISED, AND IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY WERE KNOWLEDGEABLE ON ANY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.  
SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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